

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1875.

The Tennessee Legislature is still hammering away on the Senatorial question, with Johnson in the lead.

Burnside received 43 votes in the Rhode Island Legislature for U. S. Senator, but would have been happier with 51.

The price of a Schumaker—\$300,000. He was a democrat of short memory and forgot his price when the pinch came.

B. F. Alden and I. H. Maxey, lawyers of Howell county, have been jerked up for cutting government timber.

Carpenter was nominated last Friday night by the Wisconsin Republican caucus, 50 members being present, which is no sure indication of his election.

Lessees are to have a new prison to run. They are succeeding so well with this here, that another is to be provided them to carry on.

The destitute orphans of the State are to have a guardian. The little homeless and fatherless ones are to be watched over and provided for by the benignant hand of the State.

We trust the member from Madison will yet learn that the public school interests of Missouri are not to be trifled with. It he will sit a little while at the feet of "Charlie Hardin" this lesson will surely be learned him.

It leaks out through the Johnson County Democrat that the "combination" which led to the withdrawal of Vest from the Senatorial race involves the promise of Cockrell's friends to support the "little giant" of that neighborhood—which his name is Geo. G. Vest—for Governor of the State, in 1876.

From information, unmistakably reliable, we understand that the Governor has made no promises with reference to the appointment of Warden, either with reference to time or contingency. Undoubtedly the Governor keeps his own counsel and will appoint whom, and when he pleases.

Somebody who has been sleeping for the last twenty years is writing in the Kansas City Journal and talking about humanity in the methods of punishing prisoners. This is the State of Missouri old man.

A certain set of mousing persons can find no other way in which to put in their time than that of exciting censure against the Judges of the Supreme Court for the manner in which they have used their contingent fund for furnishing themselves with such conveniences as were necessary to their night and day work in writing decisions and disposing of the vast business brought before them. Out upon such fellows.

The report of Warden Sebree of the management and affairs of the prison for the past two years will be found elsewhere. It is a well written and pointed document. Judge Sebree is an honest, straight-forward, kind-hearted, conscientious man, and is eminently well qualified for the position of Warden, if the powers of the office were not to some extent in dispute. The principal objection to him under the present circumstances, is his punctiliousness over questions involving the Warden's authority under the leasing law, which causes him to hesitate when he ought to act.

The latest piece of impudence of any magnitude we have heard of is that of the demand of J. B. McCullough, the editorial writer of the St. Louis Globe, for an inspection of the books of the St. Louis Democrat, in order, as the Democrat states, to garble and falsify facts concerning its business and for the continued defamation of that paper in the columns of the Globe. Noticeably contemptible in this connection is the action of the Globe in suffering such a use of its columns as is made of it by this fellow. Not one of the old time friends of the St. Louis Democrat, in our judgment, but will stand up for that paper in the Globe's sort of a war upon it.

We see a number of our exchanges speak of the recent mutiny at the prison as a "bread riot." We have it from the best of authority, the Warden of the prison himself, that this "bread riot" was nothing more nor less than unprovoked, and wanton devilishness. We will add further that a prisoner with whom we had an opportunity to converse while the mutiny was in progress last Monday, and who knew he was free to tell the whole truth without hope of favor or fear of punishment, assured us that the food of the convicts was far better than was furnished by the State under the old Warden system, and that the prisoners were humanely treated.

The Carrollton Journal is sound and sensible in its demand for a reorganization of our local judiciary. "Wipe it all out and start afresh on some common system," is its proposition. Scarcely two counties in the State have the same system. Uniformity is to be found nowhere. This ought not to be. Familiarity with the modes and means of transacting public business in one county ought to be sufficient to qualify a person to attend to the same business in any other county of the State. But here and there are special exceptions of jurisdiction to probate, common pleas and perhaps other court organizations all to the confusion and embarrassment of business transactions of the citizens of one county in the courts of another. In nine cases out of ten, too, these inroads upon the general system of local courts have been for the reward of some one for political services, or perhaps the contrary. Personal spite, or favoritism has been at the bottom of almost every departure from the general law that has been made, of this sort. The perniciousness of legislation from such motives is apparent. It not only ought to cease, but all of the sort ought to be repealed.

On Friday, if we understood correctly, the member from Madison county mentioned the JOURNAL in words not complimentary, because we denounced the provisions of his school bill as "intamorous." That our views were correct is evidenced by the fact that not another man, no matter what his disposition, dared advocate the bill on the floor of the House, when it came from the committee with an unanimously adverse report; that report being agreed to and the bill indefinitely postponed with only one or two dissenting voices. As to where our bread and butter comes from, it is certainly not from support granted public schools, teachers or officers, as our tax receipts will show; and as to whether we perform legitimate labor or not, one thing is certain, we do not draw per diem and mileage at the expense of the people, and in return for their confidence propose measures that are hostile to the spirit of the Constitution we have sworn to obey and support, and which aim a direct blow at the great ground work of our civilization and enlightened self-government. If we did, and God's providence had rescripted to us the faintest glimmer of self-respect, after such a rebuke as the Member from Madison has received for his temerity at the hands of the House, we would resign our seat and seek the shades of a friendly oblivion as soon as possible.

#### THE GULF TRADE.

The commercial relations of this part of our "common country" with the Gulf have no better or abler champion than the Kansas City Journal, and from day to day we find information of great value to its proper understanding. The following we find in that paper of the 21st:

An effort is being made by the connection lines of railroad between Chicago and New Orleans to put on a line of steamers between the latter named place and the ports of Mexico, for the purpose of developing the gulf trade, concentrating it at New Orleans, and supplying our sister republic with such of our products as her people need, direct from the place of production, instead of by the way of the Atlantic ports. Such a movement deserves the cordial sympathy of the whole Mississippi valley, for by a cheapening our products to Mexico we can induce that people to take more of them, and in cheapening theirs to us we can afford more of the luxuries of tropical productions.

This can be done only by providing shorter and more direct lines of transportation.

For a large part of the West, however, New Orleans is not the best port. The whole Missouri valley is several hundred miles nearer Galveston than New Orleans, and that ought to be its port. Beyond Galveston there is a similar saving of distance, as will be seen in the following tables of distances:

Distance.	Time by Steamer.
Galveston to Tampico.....480	48
Tampico to Tuxpan.....114	12
Tuxpan to Vera Cruz.....112	12
Galveston to Vera Cruz.....600	60
direct.....600	60
Vera Cruz to Matamoros.....140	14
Galveston to " direct.....685	69

The distance between New Orleans and these ports is at least two hundred miles or a day's voyage by steamer greater, as follows:

* Miles.	Hours.
New Orleans to Tampico.....710	71
New Orleans to Vera Cruz, via Tampico and Tuxpan.....913	91
New Orleans to Vera Cruz direct.....685	69

Our commercial intercourse with all these places is now very limited, although they need much of what we produce and we need their products. These facts are due mainly to the long disturbed condition of Mexico and the more recent disturbed condition of the southern part of this country, which has not been favorable to the growth of commerce.

No city ever had it in its power to seize a richer trade than that now offered to Galveston, provided she can dispense with her wharf monopoly, get a good line of steamers in the coast and inland trade, and secure railroad rates to the North that will enable the people of this section to do business with her.

## MISSOURI PENITENTIARY!

### Report of the Warden to the Board of Inspectors.

Judge Sebree Goes for the Lessees.

#### A Poorly Managed Institution.

DECEMBER 5, 1874.

To the Honorable Inspectors of the Missouri Penitentiary:

GENTLEMEN: I herewith submit to you my report of the condition, government, discipline and general operations of the penitentiary for the years 1873 and 1874.

I took charge of it as warden January 23, 1873, and from that time until the 29th day of May, 1873, it remained under the exclusive control of the State. I can not give you anything like an accurate statement of the financial operations or expenses during that time, for the reason that these matters were under the exclusive control of the several gentlemen who during that time filled the office of factor, which office ceased to exist at the time the lease took effect, and from whom I have no report on the subject. The penitentiary went into the hands of the lessees, under the act of the Legislature of March, 1873, on the 29th day of May, 1873. As under that act the lessees have had the exclusive control of the employment and labor of the convicts, I presume it is not expected that I should report, as has been usual, the various branches of business in which they have been employed since the lessees took possession.

#### BUILDINGS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

The new wall in course of construction at the time I took charge of the penitentiary, was completed in the latter part of the year 1873. The completion required about fifteen hundred cubic yards of masonry, of which work about five hundred cubic yards were done under my direction before the lessees took possession and the remainder by the lessees. The lessees have erected inside the prison walls a brick foundry building, one story high, 160 feet long by 60 feet wide. They have also added one story to the machine shop by excavating the basement, the dimensions of the room being 160 feet long by 45 feet wide. They have also erected a brick chain shop 212 feet long by 48 feet wide, and have done grading in the new prison yard to the amount of 2,300 cubic yards, as near as I can estimate it, and have macadamized a portion of the new prison yard; they have also constructed stone gutters to carry off the water from the new prison yard; have put up a substantial stone wall to protect the embankment north of the new cell building; have constructed substantial stone steps leading from the old to the new yard; have removed the wall which separated the old from the new yard; have constructed a substantial sewer leading from the new yard to the river.

Up to the 29th of May, 1873, the day the lessees took charge of the prison under the lease, the convicts were employed as follows: Two hundred and thirty were hired to contractors and worked in shops inside the walls at forty cents per day; about 300 were employed in work on the walls, and procuring and cutting stone therefor, and the balance including the sick, invalids, cripples, etc., and those whom it was necessary to employ within and outside the walls, in performing the necessary work of the prison, such as cooking, washing, commissary department, making clothes, shoes and cloth for use of convicts, nurses, stablemen, etc.

As to the number of convicts confined in the penitentiary, the age, sex, place of nativity of each, their time of imprisonment, the offences for which they were committed, etc., etc., I refer you to a number of tables hereto attached as a part of this report, containing in detail full information on these subjects.

#### DISCIPLINE.

The discipline of the penitentiary, I regret to say, has not been as thorough as could be desired. There have been occasional cases of insubordination during the entire time I have been in office—such as are likely to occur even under the best possible regulations. In addition to this there have been two attempts at open revolt. The first occurred in the month of July, 1873, among the convicts employed outside the walls at a stone quarry near the city, 44 of whom refused to work. The next occurred on the 1st of June, 1874, within the prison walls, and threatened at one time serious consequences. So much so, that a large number of armed citizens was required to quell the mutiny. Such assistance was cheerfully rendered by the citizens of Jefferson City, and I deem it proper to call attention to the fact, and acknowledge my obligations to them for their services rendered on that occasion.

I am aware that you are familiar with the circumstances attending these attempted revolts, and I allude to them now more especially for the purpose of calling attention to the fact, that the convicts shall, at all times, be provided with an abundance of wholesome food, such as can not provoke any reasonable complaint. This is not only right in itself, but is indispensable to proper discipline in the Penitentiary. Subsequent to the late revolt, which as before stated, occurred on the first day of June last, the food as a rule has been sufficient in quantity and quality. I regret to state that there has been much difficulty in requiring the lessees

to attend to such details as keeping on hand a supply of soap, tobacco, matches, coal oil, etc., which though seemingly small matters, are yet calculated to create a spirit of dissatisfaction and to furnish an excuse for insubordination.

I regret to state, also, that there has been very great difficulty in forcing the lessees to provide sufficient and suitable clothing for the convicts, such as the law requires, and to furnish uniform suits with which to clothe the convicts upon their arrival at the prison. They have repeatedly been short of the requisite supplies, and have not in this respect, come up as they ought to have done to the full measure of the law. The supply of clothing is at present inadequate. They have also failed to comply with the law in respect to furnishing discharged convicts with suits of clothes of the value of twelve dollars. Since the lessees took charge of the prison they have been constantly in arrears in the pay of officers and employees. There has been great complaint about this, and it ought in some measure to be corrected.

Under the act amendatory of the leasing bill, approved March, 1874, the lessees have the selection of the guards and other employees. Without going into details, or giving my reasons for it, I desire to say that my observation and experience of the workings of the system have but confirmed me in the opinion I have at all times entertained, that the State should have the selection of guards and other employees (except foremen of workshops), and that they should be directly responsible to the Warden. I do not believe that the interest of the State or the rights of the convicts can be properly guarded and protected without this. No man can serve two masters, and it is idle to suppose that any warden can enforce and maintain any such salutary discipline, as the best interest and safety of the institution demand, when he is not even consulted as to the assistants upon whom he is to rely for support in the discharge of his responsible duties. And does it not appear unreasonable to bid a public officer responsible for the proper management of an institution without clothing him with a controlling authority over the employees who are to act as his agents in carrying out his policy? They will render allegiance to those upon whom they are dependent for their positions. They will obey those upon whom they are dependent for bread. And hence, I submit it as my deliberate conviction, that the best results will only be secured when, in the Warden as the head of the institution, subject to the supervision of a controlling inspection, shall be reposed authority in all that pertains to the disciplinary features of the prison.

I do not desire to be understood as disparaging at all the present guards and employees, or of making these suggestions in a spirit of complaint against them. I am, in justice to myself and state, endeavoring to place my views on a most important matter before you, and to support them in the use of such arguments as appear to me conclusive.

In regard to the sanitary condition of the prison, I respectfully refer you to the physician's report. I have no other remarks to make, except the physician has frequently complained to me that he has at times had great difficulty in getting his requisitions for medicine filled, and special diet for the sick.

#### LIBRARY.

I respectfully refer you to the chaplain's report.

The property belonging to the state and turned over to the lessees, when they took charge of the penitentiary, amounted in the aggregate to \$14,234.83.

In calling your attention to what I considered just causes of complaint under the present system, I have simply aimed to discharge my whole duty to the state and to the convicts, who rightfully look to me to see that they suffer no wrong. I have been actuated by no spirit of hostility to the lessees or the leasing system. On the contrary, I have been, and am still, anxious that it shall prove a success; and from what I have seen of the practical workings of the system, I see no reason to doubt, but, under proper restrictions and regulations, insuring a correction of the evils of which I have complained, that it may so prove.

In the pleasant official intercourse which has existed between us, I have endeavored faithfully to keep you advised of the workings of the institution at all times, and desire to acknowledge my obligations for the interest you have always manifested in the welfare of the institution.

In this connection I also desire to acknowledge my obligations to the former deputy warden, Maj. John B. Ruthven, and since his retirement, Capt. William H. Bradbury.

Very respectfully,  
JOHN P. SEBREE,  
Warden Missouri Penitentiary.

#### Hard Times in 1819-'20.

People who complain so much of the existing "hard times," would do well to read the following from Benton's "Thirty Years Recollections." He says:

"The years of 1819 and 1820 were a period of gloom and agony. No money, neither gold nor silver; no paper convertible into specie; no measure or standard of value left remaining. The local banks, all but those of New England, after a brief resumption of specie payments, again sunk into a state of suspension. The bank of the United States, created as a remedy for all these evils, now at the head of the evil, was prostrate and helpless, with no power left but of suing its debtors and selling their property, and purchasing for itself at its own nominal price. No price for property or produce; no sales but those of the sheriff and marshal; no purchasers at the execution sales, but the creditor, or some hoarder of money; no employment for industry; no demand for labor; no sale for the product of the farm; no sound of hammer, but that of the auctioneer, knocking down property. Stop laws, property laws, replevin laws, stay laws, loan office laws, the intervention of the legislature between creditor and debtor—

this was the business of legislation in three-fourths of the States of the Union—of all South and West of New England. No medium of exchange, even, but little bits of foul paper, marked so many cents, and signed by some tradesman, barber, or inn keeper; exchanges deranged to the extent of fifty or one hundred per cent. Distress the universal cry of the people; relief the universal demand, thundered at the door of all legislatures, State and Federal."

DAVID KALAKAUA.

Our Democratic Legislature, and our Democratic people are just now, as he traverses the continent, paying homage to the monarch of the Hawaiian Islands, and many without knowing really, upon whom their honors are bestowed. David Kalakaua is the Seventh King of the Hawaiian Islands. He was born in Honolulu, Nov. 10, 1836. He is descended on his mother's side, from Kamehameha, an ancient King of Hawaii. He received an English education in the Royal school at Honolulu. His present visit to this country is not the first. In 1860, he visited California, but the present facilities did not then exist for a visit to the Atlantic coast, and his ideas of the grandeur of our country were imperfect. He married the chiefness Kaiulani in 1863. February 3d, 1874, on the death of Lunalilo, without proclaiming a successor, Kalakaua and Queen Dowager Emma, relict of Kamehameha IV., announced themselves as candidates for the throne. The Legislature was summoned in extra session to elect a King.

On February 12th, Kalakaua received 39 electoral votes, Queen Emma 6. The former was accordingly declared King. On hearing the result a mob of Queen Emma's partisans broke into the Court House and attacked the Legislature still sitting there. The authorities asked help from the American and British ships of war then lying in port, and the insurgents were promptly dispersed by parties of marines from the Tuscarora, Portsmouth and Tenedos. Kalakaua was installed King on the same day. On the 14th of February, 1874, he proclaimed his brother, Prince William Pitt Leleokoku, heir apparent. By the way, here was an instance of military interference by United States troops our Missouri Democratic Legislature has overlooked.

The Hawaiians form one of the families of the brown Polynesian race (radically distinct from the Malay, and more akin to the Papuan, according to Wallace), a race which inhabits also the Marquesas, Tonga, Society, Friendly, and Samoan groups, as well as New Zealand. Their similarity of language is so great that the Hawaiian and the New Zealander, though separated by a distance of 5,000 m., can readily understand each other. The Hawaiian language is very pictorial and expressive, with a full vocabulary for all natural objects. Its primitive character is shown by the deficiency of abstract words and general terms, like insect, color, are wanting; at the same time it abounds in nice distinctions, and is exact in grammatical structure. The American missionaries employed but 12 letters in reducing it to writing, A, E, I, O, U, H, K, L, M, N, P, W; and the number of different sounds is not greatly larger than this. As in all Polynesian languages, every word and syllable must end in a vowel. The ratio of vowel to consonantal sounds is nearly twice as great as in Italian. The Polynesian ear marks the slightest distinctions of vowel sound, but is dull in distinguishing consonants; b and p, d and t, are confounded; and in Hawaiian l is interchangeable with d, and t with k. The language contains no verb whatever to express either being, existence, possession or duty.—The Hawaiians are of a tawny complexion, inclining to olive, without any shade of red; the hair is black or dark brown, glossy and wavy; they have large eyes, somewhat flattened nose, and full lips. They are well made and active, and of good stature; the chiefs are often larger, and considerably exceed the average height of Europeans. Like other Polynesians, they are expert in swimming and in the use of canoes, by which their war expeditions were often carried on. They are good fishermen and horsemen, and make serviceable sailors in the whaling fleets. Their disposition is facile, yielding, and imitative; they are demonstrative and laughter-loving, and are capable of a fair degree of intellectual and moral elevation. Their songs or *meles* manifest genuine poetic feeling. In arithmetic, geometry, and music they show special aptitude. They are not naturally an industrious race, but they now cultivate the soil with considerable skill; they manufacture sugar, molasses, salt, and arrowroot, and work in iron and other metals. At the time of Cook's visits they had abandoned cannibalism, but were characterized by licentiousness and brutality, and living under the reign of terror imposed by the cruel tyranny of the *tabu*. Their character is not yet essentially civilized, although it has been much modified by education.

#### Missouri Land Titles.

The bill introduced by Mr. Bland early in the session, and published in full in the Mo. Republican, in reference to certain land titles in Missouri, giving the legal and bona fide occupants, their heirs and assigns, the primary right to pre-empt the swamp lands—so entered and occupied, was argued before the house committee on public lands Monday, by Crittenden and Bland of Missouri, and a favorable report agreed to. Should the bill pass, place will be given to many titles and homes in Missouri. Commissioner Burdett favors the bill, and a strong fight will be made for it. A quiet and concentrated opposition to the measure apparently instigated by mercenary motives is observable, however.—Republican Correspondence.

#### Committee Clerks.

The following have been appointed clerks of committees in the Senate:  
Internal Improvements, Chas. B. Norris.  
Judiciary, Thornton P. Bell.  
Ways and Means, Wm. McGrain.  
Accounts, Curran Clark.  
Criminal Jurisprudence, H. L. Strowbridge.  
Banks and Corporations, Joseph K. Riekey.  
With this complement of clerks the Senate committees are now in good working order.